

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 00884 151845Z

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01 ISO-00

EB-11 STR-08 TRSE-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SPC-03 SS-20

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3103

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L 0884

PASS UNEP DELEGATION - KITCHEN AND HOWISON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, UNGA

SUBJ: UNGA SPECIAL SESSION

1. AMB SCALI MET WITH BRAZILIAN PERMREP FRAZAO AT THE US MISSION MARCH 14 TO DISCUSS THE APRIL 9 SPECIAL UNGA SESSION. AMB FRAZAO'S OPINIONS ARE THOUGHT TO BE OF PARTICULAR RELEVANCE DUE TO HIS PROMINENCE IN THE ECONOMIC/FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES OF THE UN (HE WAS PRESIDENT OF ECOSOC IN 1973, AND ONE OF THE LEADERS OF G-77) AND THE PROMINENCE OF THE GOB AND THE BRAZILIAN MISSION IN UN FORA. AMB SCALI COMMENCED THE CONVERSATION BY EXPLAINING THE PRESENT STATE OF THE USG'S VIEW OF, AND ATTITUDE TOWARD, THE SPECIAL SESSION. IN BRIEF, HE SAID THAT WE ACCEPTED THE CONVENING OF THE SESSION, WISHED TO AVOID CONFRONTATION, AND HOPED FOR A POSITIVE OUTCOME WHICH WOULD NOT UNDERMINE THE WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE OR THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE, AND WOULD RESULT IN NOTHING MORE OMINOUS THAN A DISTRIBUTION OF WORK TO ESTABLISHED UN BODIES, SUCH AS ECOSOC.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 USUN N 00884 151845Z

2. AMB FRAZAO'S REMARKS AND SYNTHESIS OF THE INFORMATION HE VOLUNTEERED FOLLOWS. FRAZAO SAID THAT HE VIEWED THE NON-ALIGNED INITIATIVE IN CALLING FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION AS HAVING THE EFFECT OF REVIVING THE G-77, WHICH HE SAID HAD BEEN DEBILITATED OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS. HE OF COURSE, FINDS THIS POSITIVE, SINCE IN HIS OPINION THE G-77 IS A TECHNICAL ECONOMIC TOOL WHILE THE NON-ALIGNED GROUP IS ESSENTIALLY POLITICAL. HE NOTED THAT IT WAS DIFFICULT FOR THE GOB TO DEVELOP "FIRM POSITIONS ON THE SPECIAL SESSION SINCE A NEW ADMINISTRATION IS DUE TO TAKE OFFICE IMMINENTLY. HOWEVER, HE SAID THAT BRAZIL HAD TAKEN AN ACTIVE PART IN CONSULTATIONS IN NY UP UNTIL TWO WEEKS AGO AND THAT IT WOULD DO SO ONCE AGAIN IN THE NEAR FUTURE. AMB SCALI STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF "MODERATES" SUCH AS BRAZIL TAKING AN ACTIVE LEAD IN CONSULTATIONS PRECEEDING THE UNGA AND IN THE COURSE OF THE ASSEMBLY ITSELF. IN THAT CONNECTION, AMB SCALI RECALLED THAT BRAZIL IS IN A POSITION VERY SIMILAR TO THAT OF THE US AS REGARDS THE INVOLVEMENT OF THEIR NATIONAL ECONOMIES IN THE BROADEST SPECTRUM OF RAW MATERIALS IMPORTS AND EXPORTS AND INDUSTRIALIZED GOODS IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

3. ON THE MATTERS TO BE BEFORE THE SPECIAL SESSION, I.E. THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES AND THE ACTION PROGRAM, FRAZAO THOUGHT THAT THE LATTER WOULD BE THE MOST SIGNIFICANT ELEMENT. HE SAID THAT THE ACTION PROGRAM WOULD ESSENTIALLY INVOLVE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTING AS A /COMPUTER" DISTRIBUTING QUESTIONS OF PRIORITIES AND STUDIES TO ESTABLISHED UN AGENCIES OR BODIES. HE CAUTIONED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE MIGHT BE SOME TENDENCIES TO GO BEYOND THIS MERE DISTRIBUTIVE FUNCTION. HE DID NOT ELABORATE. HE DISMISSED THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES, SAYING THAT HE HAD WORKED IN THIS GENERAL AREA FOR FIFTEEN YEARS, AND COULD DASH OFF SUCH A DECLARATION IN TEN MINUTES.

4. IN RESPONSE TO FRAZAO'S QUESTION REGARDING THE STATE OR CONSULTATIONS WITH "OUR INDUSTRIALIZED FRIENDS", AMB SCALI RESPONDED THAT WE HAD MADE CONTACT WITH THEM
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 USUN N 00884 151845Z

ON HIGHLY SELECTIVE BASIS, BUT HAD REACHED NO CONCLUSION REGARDING THEIR POSITION. AMB SCALI WENT ON TO SAY THAT WE DID NOT BELIEVE THAT THE US WOULD NECESSARILY SHARE THE POSITIONS OR POINTS OF VIEW OF OTHER COUNTRIES SIMPLY BECAUSE THEY HAPPENED TO BE INDUSTRIALIZED OR DEVELOPED. FRAZAO MENTIONED THE CONSPICUOUS ABSENCE OF A US REP AT THE MARCH 12 INTER-GROUP CONSULTATIONS MEETING. AMB SCALI SAID THAT WE HAD DECIDED NOT TO ATTEND SO AS

NOT TO ENCOURAGE THE DEVELOPMENT OF UNCTAD-TYPE ORGANIZATION ALONG GROUP LINES IN THE GA. FRAZAO RESPONDED THAT THE SESSION WOULD IN FACT BE AN UNCTAD-TYPE MEETING. FRAZAO FURTHER VOLUNTERED THAT HE THOUGHT THAT THE UK AND FRANCE WOULD SEIZE THE SESSION AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO COZY UP TO THE LDC'S, WHILE THE SOVIET UNION WOULD BE PARALYZED BY FEAR OF ANY SHIFT OR ADVANCE OF THE ECONOMIC/FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS WITHIN THE UN SYSTEM. HE EXPRESSED THE CERTAINTY THAT THE US AS AN AMERICAN COUNTRY WOULD GO ALONG WITH CERTAIN ADJUSTMENTS AND CHANGES REQUIRED TO MEET THE NEW SITUATION.

5. THE AMBASSADORS AGREED TO EXCHANGE VIEWS IN THE FUTURE ON THE QUESTION OF THE SESSION. AMB. FRAZAO EXPRESSED PARTICULAR INTEREST IN THE LEVEL OF US REPRESENTATION AT THE UNGA SPECIAL SESSION, ADDING THAT THE GOB HAD NOT YET DECIDED WHO WOULD HEAD THEIR DELEGATION. SCALI

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